GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
SPACE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1102
ANSWERED ON:14.07.2004
INSTALLATION OF LASER TRIMMING SYSTEM IN VSSC
Mandlik Shri Sadashivrao Dadoba;Singh Shri Kirti Vardhan

Will the Minister of SPACE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre had called for installation of Laser Trimming System in 1998 specified as 8 watts and the wavelength 1064 nanometers;

(b) if so, the name of agency selected alongwith the cost of the system and the terms and conditions laid down therefor;

(c) the details of the system received alongwith the time of supply and installation of system;

(d) whether the supplier has not fulfilled the terms and conditions;

(e) if so, the action taken against the supplier and also against his Indian agent;

(f) the loss suffered by the Government as a result thereof; and

(g) the action taken against the official responsible for the said deal?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE PRIME MINISTER`S OFFICE (SHRI PRITHVIRAJ CHAVAN):

(a) Yes, Sir.

(b) M/s California Digital Laser Systems, USA was selected to supply the item at a cost of Indian equivalent of Rs. 91.35 lakhs. As per the terms and conditions, the suppliers were responsible for installation and commissioning of the system.

(c) The Laser Trimming System and its accessories were received in June 1998 but the experts from the US Company could not visit India for commissioning the system on account of the US imposed sanctions on ISRO in May 1998. However, with in-house expertise, the equipment could be made operational for its primary function in July 2001.

(d) Yes, Sir

(e) No action was required to be taken against the supplier and the Indian agent since the non-fulfilment was due to the US imposed sanctions.

(f) The amount paid to the Company was only 90% of the total cost. The balance 10% amount was the milestone payment which was to be made for commissioning the system and after testing its performance. Since the supplier has not commissioned the equipment, the 10% amount was withheld. Hence there was no loss suffered.

(g) No action was required to be taken against any official as there was no fault on the part of any official of the Department.